

# NATIONAL RECORDER.

"Nec araneorum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes."

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We recommend to the attention of our readers the address of the managers of the Apprentices' Library Company.—(See p. 184).

Without any disposition to magnify the importance of the institution to which it relates, we cannot but consider it in a national point of view. The experiment now making by this people, of a mode of government, the opposite of the ancient *restrictive* system, must depend for its success upon the moral character of the people.

A general diffusion of knowledge would create a very powerful influence in the public mind, in favour of correct principles of legislation. It is said by a writer from Harrisburgh, that the project of a *loan office* is daily acquiring supporters, and will probably pass both houses. We hope he may be mistaken, but it may not perhaps be impertinent to remark, that the general establishment of institutions like the Apprentices' Library, would in a few years do more to defeat such quackery, than volumes of argument on the present question.

The Louisville Public Advertiser expresses much disapprobation of the new law for the sale of the public lands. A new argument in favour of the existing law is made use of.

"The commerce of the west by the Mexican gulf, must be carried and protected by the Atlantic states, and to secure that protection, the west must have a strong tie on them. A large debt due in the western states to the government, by the purchasers of the public lands, to be paid only by a market and sale of the produce of agriculture, is that tie, and will compel the protection of commerce into and out of the gulf."

## POLITICAL ECONOMY.

The happiness and improvement of mankind, it is now beginning to be acknowledged, are intimately connected with the right understanding and practical application of the leading doctrines of the science of political economy. Of what deep im-

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portance, therefore, is it, that a knowledge of these principles should be extensively disseminated. Whenever the study of this science shall be generally considered as an essential branch of early education, most of the abstruse questions and controversies, which now divide the writers on this subject, will be brought to a conclusion; the accession of useful knowledge it will occasion, will more effectually eradicate the prejudices which have given birth to these disputes and misconceptions, than any direct argumentative refutation.

The foregoing reflections have induced us to lay before our readers the following striking and profound observations of DUGALD STEWART, upon the application of the inductive logic to the science of political economy. In adverting to the paramount authority of *experience* in all political investigation, anxious to guard his readers against the misapplication of this term, he has, in the most triumphant manner, accordingly pointed out the superior "advantages (to use his own inimitable language,) of an experience guided by penetration and judgment," over "an experience which is to supersede all exercise of our rational faculties; of an experience accurate, various and discriminating," over "one which is gross and undistinguishing, like the perceptions of the lower animals." In availing himself of these illustrations, with the view to correct the logical errors which so numerous a class of inquirers have fallen into in relation to some of the most important problems in political economy, he has given us the most correct and philosophical account of the appropriate objects of this study.

The science of politics may be divided into two parts; the first having for its object the theory of government; the second, the general principles of legislation. That I may not lose myself in too wide a field, I shall, on the present occasion, waive all consideration of the former; and, for the sake of still greater precision, shall restrict my remarks to those branches of the latter, which are comprehended under

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the general title of political economy; a phrase, however, which I wish to be here understood in its most extensive meaning.

They who have turned their attention, during the last century, to inquiries connected with population, national wealth, and other collateral subjects, may be divided into two classes; to the one of which we may, for the sake of distinction, give the title of *political arithmeticians*, or *statistical collectors*; to the other, that of *political economists*, or *political philosophers*. The former are generally supposed to have the evidence of experience in their favour, and seldom fail to arrogate to themselves exclusively, the merit of treading closely in the footsteps of *Bacon*. In comparison with them, the latter are considered as little better than visionaries, or, at least, as entitled to no credit whatever, when their conclusions are at variance with the details of statistics.

In opposition to this prevailing prejudice, it may, with confidence, be asserted, that, in so far as either of these branches of knowledge has any real value, it must rest on a basis of well ascertained facts; and that the difference between them, consists only in the different nature of the facts with which they are respectively conversant. The facts accumulated by the statistical collector are merely particular results, which other men have seldom an opportunity of verifying or of disproving; and which, to those who consider them in an insulated state, can never afford any important information. The facts which the political philosopher professes to investigate are exposed to the examination of all mankind; and while they enable him, like the general laws of physics, to ascertain numberless particulars by synthetic reasoning, they furnish the means of estimating the credibility of evidence resting on the testimony of individual observers.

It is acknowledged by Mr. Smith, with respect to himself, that he had "no great faith in political arithmetic;"\* and I agree with him so far as to think that little, if any, regard is due to a particular phenomenon, when stated as an objection to a conclusion resting on the general laws which regulate the course of human affairs. Even admitting the phenomenon in question to have been accurately observed, and faithfully described, it is yet possible that we may be imperfectly acquainted with that combination of circumstances whereby the effect is modified; and that if these circumstances were fully before us, this apparent exception would turn out an additional illustration of the very truth which it was brought to invalidate.

If these observations be just, instead of appealing to political arithmetic as a check on the conclusions of political economy, it would often be more reasonable to have recourse to political economy as a check on the extravagancies of political arithmetic. Nor will this assertion appear paradoxical to those who consider, that the object of the political arithmetician is too frequently to record apparent exceptions to rules sanctioned by the general experience of mankind; and, consequently, that, in cases where there is an obvious or a demonstrative

incompatibility between the alleged exception and the general principle, the fair logical inference is not against the truth of the latter, but against the possibility of the former.

It has long been an established opinion among the most judicious and enlightened philosophers,—that as the desire of bettering our condition appears equally from a careful review of the motives which habitually influence our own conduct, and from a general survey of the history of our species, to be the master-spring of human industry, the labour of slaves never can be so productive as that of freemen. Not many years have elapsed, since it was customary to stigmatize this reasoning as visionary and metaphysical; and to oppose to it that species of evidence to which we were often reminded that all theories must bend; the evidence of experimental calculations furnished by intelligent and credible observers on the other side of the Atlantic. An accurate examination of the fact has shown how wide of the truth these calculations were; but independently of any such detection of their fallacy, might it not have been justly affirmed, that the argument from experience was decided against their credibility; the facts appealed to resting solely upon the good sense and good faith of individual witnesses; while the opposite argument drawn from the principles of the human frame, was supported by the united voice of all nations and ages?

If we examine the leading principles which run through Mr. Smith's inquiry into the nature and causes of the wealth of nations, we shall find, that all of them are general facts or general results, analogous to that which has been just mentioned. Of this kind, for instance, are the following propositions, from which a very large proportion of his characteristic doctrines follow, as necessary and almost manifest corollaries: That what we call the political order, is much less the effect of human contrivance than is commonly imagined:—That every man is a better judge of his own interest than any legislator can be for him; and that his regard to private interest (or, in other words, this desire of bettering our condition) may be safely trusted to as a principle of action universal among men in its operation; a principle stronger, indeed, in some than in others, but constant in its habitual influence upon all:—That, where the rights of individuals are completely protected by the magistrate, there is a strong tendency in human affairs, arising from what we are apt to consider as the selfish passions of our nature, to a progressive and rapid improvement in the state of society:—That this tendency to improvement in human affairs is often so very powerful, as to correct the inconveniences threatened by the errors of the statesman:—And that, therefore, the reasonable presumption is in favour of every measure which is calculated to afford to its farther development, a scope still freer than what it at present enjoys; or which amounts very nearly to the same thing, in favour of as great a liberty in the employment of industry, of capital, and of talents, as is consistent with the security of property, and of the other rights of our fellow citizens. The premises, it is perfectly obvious, from which these conclusions are deduced, are neither hypothetical assumptions, nor metaphysical abstractions,

\* *Wealth of Nations*, vol. II. p. 310. 9th Edit.



They are practical maxims of good sense, approved by the experience of men in all ages of the world; and of which, if we wish for any additional confirmations, we have only to retire within our own bosoms, or to open our eyes on what is passing around us.

From these considerations it would appear, that in politics, as well as in many of the other sciences, the loudest advocates for experience are the least entitled to appeal to its authority in favour of their dogmas; and that the charge of a presumptuous confidence in human wisdom and foresight, which they are perpetually urging against political philosophers, may, with far greater justice, be retorted on themselves. An additional illustration of this is presented by the strikingly contrasted effects of statistical and of philosophical studies on the intellectual habits in general; the former invariably encouraging a predilection for restraints and checks, and all the other technical combinations of an antiquated and scholastic policy; the latter by inspiring, on the one hand, a distrust of the human powers, when they attempt to embrace in detail, interests, at once so complicated and so momentous; and, on the other, a religious attention to the designs of nature, as displayed in the general laws which regulate her economy; leading, no less irresistibly, to a gradual and progressive simplification of the political mechanism. It is, indeed, the never-failing result of all sound philosophy, to humble, more and more, the pride of science before that Wisdom which is infinite and divine; whereas, the farther back we carry our researches into those ages, the institutions of which have been credulously regarded as monuments of the superiority of unsophisticated good sense, over the false refinements of modern arrogance, we are the more struck with the numberless insults offered to the most obvious suggestions of nature and of reason. We may remark this, not only in the moral depravity of rude tribes, but in the universal disposition which they discover to disfigure and distort the bodies of their infants; in one case, new-modeling the form of the eyelids; in a second, lengthening the ears; in a third, checking the growth of the feet; in a fourth, by mechanical pressures applied to the head, attacking the seat of thought and intelligence. To allow the human form to attain, in perfection, its fair proportions, is one of the latest improvements of civilized society; and the case is perfectly analogous in those sciences which have for their object to assist nature in the cure of the diseases; in the development and improvement of the intellectual faculties; in the correction of bad morals; and in the regulations of political economy.

#### NEW YORK AND SAVANNAH.

The circumstances related below have created much interest. It would afford us much gratification should the New York committee think proper to return the money to Savannah, with a respectful and affectionate profession of regret, that their letter should have been thought to contain any insinuation derogatory to those appoint-

ed to distribute the money, and requesting them to accept it and dispose of it as they may deem proper.

#### FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

A very unexpected and unpleasant collision has arisen between the citizens of New York and Savannah, of which the following is a brief account. At the meeting of the citizens of the former place, at which it was resolved to make collections for the benefit of the sufferers by the late fire at Savannah, the following was among the resolutions passed:

*"Resolved, That it is the wish of the general committee, that the money and goods to be remitted to Savannah, be applied exclusively to the relief of all indigent persons, without distinction of colour, who are dependent on their own industry for support, and who have been sufferers by the late fire at that place."*

Together with the amount of money collected for this purpose, the mayor of the city of New York forwarded, for the government of the Savannah committee of distribution, a copy of this resolution.

It was adopted and received at an unfortunate moment, when the agitation of the Missouri question gave to it a point it would not perhaps otherwise have had. On reception of this letter, it was laid before the city council of Savannah by the mayor of that city, and the following proceedings took place:

*"In Council, Savannah, Feb. 28, 1820."*

*"The mayor having laid before the board the letter from the mayor of New York, enclosing the sum of ten thousand two hundred and thirty-eight dollars and twenty-nine cents, as the amount of the contributions of the citizens of that city, for the sufferers by the late fire; and also stating that certain goods were shipped for the use of the poor: and this collection appearing to be subject to conditions, in the mode and manner of its distribution, not annexed to any similar donation, and casting a suspicion on the views and objects of those appointed to distribute the charity fund—on motion of alderman Harris, seconded by alderman Bourke,*

*"Unanimously resolved, That the mayor of this city do thank the mayor of New York for his polite letter, and that he do return the money now received, and the goods, when tendered to him—council feeling it a duty they owe this city, to decline the acceptance of this money, or the goods."*

*"Extract from the minutes."*

*"M. MYERS, C. C."*

There is some proud feeling in this proceeding, but, we are glad to see, no passion. Indeed, the character of the mover of the resolve is so well known as to make it more than usually impressive.

The mayor of the city of Savannah has accordingly returned the money to the mayor of the city of New York, accompanied by a letter explaining the reasons for declining to accept the donation, the nature of which the following extract will show:

*"The donations of our fellow citizens of New York places our distressed people in the hum-*



ble condition of *paupers*. It restrains, too, our respectable and intelligent committee in the exercise of a discretion, of which they ought not, and cannot be divested; and the language of the resolution adverted to by you is calculated also to awaken and put forth impressions not only dangerous to the tranquillity of this section of the United States, but, in reference to the humanity of our citizens, grossly injurious and palpably incorrect. It is, in short, throwing among us the firebrand of discord, and, if persevered in, will shake to the foundation the beautiful fabric of our liberty, and place in jeopardy the federal unity of our now glorious republic."

We have some curiosity to see how this matter will terminate. We hope it will be in such a manner as to leave behind it no heart burning.

The following letter, contemporaneously published in the Savannah Republican, possibly added to the *feeling* produced on this occasion:

"Office of the American Fire Insurance Company,  
Philadelphia, Feb. 17, 1820.

"Sir—I have received your letter of the 7th instant, respecting the insurance on your house and furniture in Savannah. In answer thereto, I am to inform you, that this company, for the present, declines making insurances in any of the slave states.

"With respect, sir, I am your obedient servant,

"EDWARD FOX.

"— — —, esq. Savannah."

#### *Hard Times to the Richmond Bakers.*

Under this head the bakers in Richmond have published a complaint of the injury they have received from the assize of bread. "The Hustings Court," to which the power belongs, has ordained that a loaf of bread sold for  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents, shall weigh  $26\frac{1}{2}$  ounces. This it appears was more than the bakers could afford to give, and "at the court succeeding that which fixed the assize, they all met and their case was ably and accurately stated to the court by their counsel, praying them to lessen the assize, so as to enable the bakers to resume their business. But, so far from listening to our reasonable expostulations, his honour the mayor charged us with artifice in refusing to bake; said that we had stopped on the supposition, that as the legislature was in session, the demand for bread would be so great in the taverns, that petitions would be made to him to alter the assize. But so far, he observed, we had been mistaken, for no complaint had been made to him as to the want of bread. Now, in the name of common sense, is this not enough to prove that both rich and poor can live independent of the bakers?"

After an exposition of the impolicy of

the law, they conclude in a very affecting manner: "We shall now finish our remarks; much has been said, and much more might be said, to show that the bakers are hardly dealt with in this city. And each and all of us do declare upon our consciences, and before God and the Hustings Court, to whom the unfortunate bakers are amenable, that the said Hustings Court has nearly ruined our profession in this city."

The propriety of interfering between buyers and sellers, is worthy of serious reflection. Bread, like every thing else, will be kept to a proper standard, by the competition of bakers; and if the profit should be raised beyond a fair price for the labour of the manufacturer, it would be corrected by the reduction of the demand.

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### Record.

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## Sixteenth Congress.

FIRST SESSION.

### SENATE.

*March 8.*—The important bill for changing the mode of disposing of the public lands from credit to cash sales, was discussed at large, and finally ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.—The bill to suspend for a further time the forfeiture of lands for nonpayment, &c. was also taken up, and ordered, *puri passu* with the former bill, to be engrossed for a third reading.

*March 9.*—The bill changing the forms of sales of public lands from credit to cash, was passed by a vote of 31 to 7. The minimum price was changed to \$1.25, and the commencement of the new order of things is to be the first of July next.—The other bill, noticed above, was also passed.—The Senate made some progress in the consideration of the bankrupt bill.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*March 7.*—The committee on naval affairs, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of suspending for a limited time, so much of the standing appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the increase of the navy, as may be consistent with the public service, &c. made a report, the purport of which is, that, after due inquiry, they believe that true economy and the best interests of the nation are opposed to a suspension, even for a limited time, of any portion of the sum annually appropriated for the gradual increase of the navy; and that they have not been able to ascertain where any essential reduction can be made in the expenses of the navy without reducing the establishment.

*March 8.*—The engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of the navy of the United States, for the year 1820, was read the third time, passed and sent to the Senate.—In the course of debate on the several items of military appropriation, that making provision for the military academy at West Point was objected to, but concurred with by a large majority.

*March 9.*—Mr. Lowndes, from the committee



on foreign relations, delivered in the following report:

The committee to whom has been referred so much of the President's message, at the commencement of the session, as relates to foreign affairs, respectfully report:

That their attention was directed, immediately upon their appointment, to the state of the relations of the United States with Spain, and that their delay in making a report upon them must be attributed to their wish "to afford an opportunity for such friendly communications, during the present session of Congress," as the government of Spain had authorized us to expect. They thought it better that Congress should postpone its determination until events might enable it to make that determination definitive, than that it should pass a contingent act for authorizing measures which it was not proposed immediately to execute; that it should rather found its determinations upon relations ascertained to exist, than upon a calculation of events which might be expected to occur during its sitting.

But more than a year has passed since the signature of the treaty by which it was proposed to terminate the long differences between the United States and Spain; more than six months since the appointment of a new minister from Spain, who was "forthwith" to make known to the United States the intentions of his government; and we have advanced so far in the session as to make it necessary to propose, without further delay, any measure on which it is expected that Congress shall act before its adjournment.

The committee will not attempt to add any thing to the exposition of the rights of the United States and the obligations of Spain, which is contained in the correspondence between the two governments. We can hardly expect, from continued negotiations, the redress which has been claimed for twenty years, and promised for eighteen—which has been a second time promised, and a second time withheld. In such a negotiation, the signature of a treaty seems to be a mere incident, and not its term.

For the spoliation which has been committed upon the property of our citizens, for the invasion of our soil, for the weakness or partiality which has made a Spanish territory the place of rendezvous and encampment of an enemy, and which has still more lately permitted the Indian inhabitants of that territory, (whom Spain was bound by treaty to restrain,) to engage in savage hostilities against us; for all these acts of war, a people less attached to peace would seek redress only by war. To capture and confiscate the ships and property of the wrongdoer, would be admitted to be a policy of mildness and forbearance. But, by such reprisals, the government that does the wrong suffers less than the unoffending subject. It seems a more just reprisal to occupy the province which has been made an instrument of injury, which has been designated by Spain herself as the fund for our indemnity, and whose occupation by the United States will stop the accumulation of those claims for compensation and redress, which the misgovernment of that neglected colony continually pro-

duces. The committee submit to the House a bill to authorize the President of the United States to take possession of East and West Florida, and establish a temporary government therein.

There appears too much reason to believe, from the mistake of the Spanish negotiator, as to the dates of the Spanish grants, which it was intended to annul, if the projected treaty had been ratified, that the crown lands in Florida may be insufficient to provide the expected indemnity for our losses. But these may be applied, as far as they will go, to the compensation of our citizens, and for the excess of our claim, Spain, by whose act the domain of Florida has been rendered inadequate, must expect us to look westward. Perhaps, when our attention is thus forced to a direction more interesting to Spain, her government may at last admit that it is as much her interest as ours, that the just claims of the United States should be provided for by friendly convention, and we may hope that the next treaty between the two nations may be executed as well as signed!

The following bill accompanied the report:

*Be it enacted, &c.* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to take possession of, and occupy, the territories of East and West Florida, and the appendages and appurtenances thereof; and he is hereby authorized, for that purpose, to employ any part of the army and navy of the United States, and the militia of any state, which he may deem necessary.

*Sec. 2. And be it enacted,* That, until the end of the next session of Congress, unless provision for the temporary government of the said territories be sooner made by Congress, all the military, civil, and judicial powers exercised by the officers of the existing government of the same territories shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct, for maintaining the inhabitants of said territories in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion; and the laws of the United States relative to the collection of the revenue, and the importation of persons of colour, shall be extended to the said territories; and the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby, authorized, within the term aforesaid, to establish such districts for the collection of the revenue, and during the recess of Congress to appoint such officers, whose commissions shall expire at the end of the next session of Congress, to enforce the said laws, as to him shall seem expedient.

*Sec. 3. And be it enacted,* That the sum of — dollars is hereby appropriated, for the purpose of carrying this act into effect, to be paid out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and to be applied under the direction of the President of the United States.

The bill was twice read, and referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the union.

Much discussion took place on the army bill, particularly the appropriation for fortifications.

*March 10.*—The debate continued.

*March 11.*—The whole of the day was occupied by a debate on one of the items of the military appropriation law; being in effect a de-



bate on the expediency of the further prosecution of the Missouri expedition. The result was, a decision, by a majority of five votes, adverse to a proposition embracing that object.

*March 13.*—The Missouri expedition was tried over again. The majority in favour of limiting it to the Council Bluffs, was more decided than on Saturday.

The Council Bluffs (so called from a council having been held there with the Indians by Lewis and Clarke, during their tour of exploration some years ago) are situated about 470 miles above the mouth of the Missouri river, which last is 15 miles above the town of St. Louis. They are from 180 to 200 miles beyond the extent of the remotest present American settlement. Of course, should the expedition not proceed farther, its main object—the security of the western frontier by the establishment of a powerful outpost—is already accomplished, and has received the decided sanction of the House of Representatives. The Mandan villages, beyond which it was doubted whether the expedition would proceed, are, by land, between five and six hundred miles above the Council Bluffs. The mouth of the Yellow Stone river, to which it has been sometimes said the expedition would extend, is, by land, about three hundred miles above the Mandan villages.

#### PENNSYLVANIA. SENATE.

*March 8.*—The bill regulating the judiciary was postponed for the present, and recommended to the earliest attention of the next legislature.

*March 9.*—The bill to prohibit the circulation of bank notes of a less denomination than \$5, was negatived.—The bill declaring the holding offices under the state and the United States incompatible, was negatived.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*March 6.*—A resolution was laid on the table to appoint a committee to inquire into the expediency of placing the management of the lottery in the hands of the state, and paying the Union Canal Company an equivalent.

*March 7.*—Reported a further supplement to an act securing to mechanics the payment of their labour and materials in the erection of buildings in the city and county of Philadelphia.

*March 8.*—Mr. Duane presented to the House, at the request of Mr. James Ronaldson, a bust of general Jackson, to be deposited in the library of the General Assembly.—Mr. Lehman reported a bill to appoint commissioners to explore the route of a canal along the great valley of Chester county, from the Schuylkill to the Susquehannah.—A bill was reported to prevent the operation of foreign banking companies in the state; such as Camden.

*March 9.*—The report of the committee on domestic manufactures, concluding with a resolution to request our delegation in Congress to support protecting measures, was discussed but not decided.—The bill making appropriations for the improvement of the state, was debated on the 2d, 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and on the 10th passed to a third reading; 11th passed the House, 66 to 28.

#### News.

George the Third died on the 29th January. He was born in the year 1738, and reigned 59 years.

The duke of Kent died on the 23d January, in the 53d year of his age.

The late princess of Wales (now queen of England), was at Marseilles, where she has resided since November.

Accounts from Spain are somewhat contradictory, so that it is difficult to ascertain the truth, but it is currently reported that the insurgents had gained possession of Cadiz.

The Morning Chronicle of January 18th contains copious extracts from German papers. From these it appears that Austria is making important regulations, for the promotion of the commerce of that country. A very liberal tariff of transit duties is to be carried into effect. A canal is cutting from Vienna to Trieste, which will unite the Danube and the Adriatic sea; this canal is finished to the Hungarian frontiers. The canal from Milan to Pavia, which was determined on 400 years ago, has been completed; by it Milan is united with the Adriatic sea.

It is stated that the congress of Vienna has declared, that the Germanic confederation has neither the right nor the power to interfere with existing constitutions, in any of the German states.

In speaking of the India trade, the Chronicle observes: "The absurdity of continuing to exclude British merchants from the trade between Canton and the European and American states, arises from the construction put upon the clause of monopoly, allowed to the East India Company in their last charter. We are happy to find that this question is now under the consideration of a committee of merchants; and it is probable will be submitted to the consideration of ministers at an early day. At this time the Americans have about 18,000 tons of shipping employed in this trade, and probably not less than 8,000 seamen. In course of the year 1818, more than 11,000 chests of tea were imported into Canada, not by the East India House, but directly from Canton, in American bottoms!"

A quantity of wool from New South Wales, was sold at London on the 14th of January, at more than 3s. sterling per lb. The sale averaged a higher price than Spanish wool, offered at the same time.

The king of Prussia has issued a decree, prohibiting, in his dominions, the circulation of the journals printed in the Netherlands.

We have received most of the English provincial papers; they are chiefly filled with accounts of the distress of the poor, from the severity of the weather, and of exertions for their relief.

The East Indian, store ship, is about to sail from Cork, with Irish settlers bound to South Africa.

One thousand five hundred and ninety-three ships arrived at Hamburgh during the year 1819.

The mob have again insulted the Jews at Copenhagen. During the Christmas holidays the windows of the houses of the principal Jewish merchants were destroyed. The cavalry were called out and prevented further excess.



Letters dated at Kamtschatka, June 18th, old style, state, that on the 4th of that month an American merchantman arrived there in 26 days from the Sandwich islands, with a cargo of swine, goats, poultry, water melons and potatoes.—Some of the latter weighed 10 lbs.

It appears by recent accounts from Cape Coast Castle, that that part of the coast of Africa was infested by swarms of pirates of the very worst description, who frequently, not content merely with plundering the vessel, murdered the crews also.

It appears from the English report of the British National Society, that there are 1467 schools on Dr. Bell's system; and from the 14th report of the British and Foreign School Society, that there are 297 schools on the Lancasterian plan; making a total upon the new system of 1764 schools.

The king of France has granted a pardon to general Lavalette.

At the Old Bailey, on the 17th of January, two persons were indicted on a charge of trafficking in slaves. They were tried on the 18th and found guilty.

A destructive fire broke out at Oxford, on the 9th January, which destroyed Magdalen Hall. It destroyed the whole range of buildings, consisting of 18 sets of rooms. No lives were lost. All the furniture, books, &c. were consumed.

*The Turkish Bible.*—Through the indefatigable attention of professor Kieffer, the editor, aided by the advice of baron Sylvester de Cacy, the New Testament having been completed at Paris, preparations are making to accomplish the printing of the whole Bible, under the same superintendence, with all practicable despatch.

An article dated Manheim, the 27th December states, that intelligence had just been received, that the great dyke of the Rhine had been burst through, at ten o'clock on the preceding evening, and that the inhabitants of the adjoining country had been obliged to fly to the highest pinnacle for refuge. The territory of Carlsruhe, was almost wholly under water; and, indeed, there were few towns along the Rhine, or adjoining the rivers which flow into it, that were not suffering greatly from the inundation.

Mr. Bagot, the late British minister to this country, has been appointed ambassador to the court of St. Petersburg.

The prince regent has appointed Anthony Barclay, esq. to be his Britanic majesty's commissioner for carrying into effect the sixth and seventh articles of the treaty of Ghent, *vice* John Ogilvy, esq. deceased.

*A Noble Act.*—Sir Joseph Banks, in consequence of the depressed state of the agricultural interest, has given directions to his agent, to make such reductions of rent as may enable his numerous tenantry to meet the emergencies of the times; remarking, "that opulence would afford him no enjoyments, could he believe that the comforts of his tenants and dependants underwent any diminution."

The Ninth Book of the *Memoirs of Napoleon*, written by himself, was published at Paris, in a mutilated form, about the 10th of January. Two thousand copies were sold on the first day; and on the following morning the remainder of the edition was seized by the police. The whole work is now printing in London, both in French

and English. One of the London papers observes, that this London edition "will be printed accurately from the original St. Helena manuscript in the hands of Dr. O'Meara."

A London paper of the 12th January, says—"The ensuing assizes are pregnant with important business. At Leicester, sir F. Burdett is to take his trial upon the *ex officio* information filed by the attorney general, charging him with the publication of a seditious libel, contained in his letter to the electors of Westminster, on the subject of the affair at Manchester. At Warwick, sir Charles Wolseley, major Cartwright, Edmonds, Wooler, and others, take their trials for the alleged illegal proceedings at Birmingham and at Lancaster. Mr. Hunt and his Manchester associates, take their trials for their concern with the business in that town."

The representation of Brutus and Venice Preserved has been forbidden!

The President's message had been published in most of the London papers, and was regarded as an able state paper. In remarking upon it, the editor of the Courier says: "It is satisfactory to learn from this document, that the United States government is actively and sincerely co-operating in putting down the slave trade." But what will be their surprise, when they receive the late votes in Congress on the Missouri bill?

A furious insurrection is said to have broken out at Smyrna. Much blood has been shed on the occasion. The palace of the pacha was stormed, and he himself escaped with great difficulty.

Upwards of 2,200,000 eggs were imported from France the last three months.

Sir Thomas Lawrence, the English painter, has just finished the portrait of the pope at Rome. He was employed by the prince regent.

There had been some disturbances amongst the labouring classes at Manchester, but tranquillity had been restored.

The new bank of England notes were to come into operation by the end of February. The plate had undergone an alteration, which was deemed very important.

The subscription in London alone, to afford refuge to the houseless poor, amounted to upwards of sixty-two thousand dollars. The number relieved during the severity of the weather, we have not seen stated.

*Tom Paine.*—A dinner was to have been given on the 29th (under the auspices of Cobbet), at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, London, to celebrate the memory of Tom Paine. The intention, however, was frustrated, as the proprietor of the tavern refused to suffer his house to be used on the occasion.

His majesty George the Third was born on the 24th of May, 1738, which, since the alteration of the style, has become the 4th of June. At his death, therefore, he had reached the advanced age of eighty-one years, seven months and twenty-six days. He was proclaimed king on the 25th October, 1760. On September 8th, 1761, he was married to her late majesty, and had issue seven sons and five daughters, of whom six of the former and four of the latter survive him. His royal highness the prince of Wales was appointed regent on the 6th of Fe-



bruary, 1811; and from that time he has been virtual sovereign, acting in the name and on behalf of his majesty. His majesty, from the appointment of the regent, remained in retirement at Windsor Castle, under the guardianship of a council, who met every month, or more frequently, as occasion might require, and issued a report of the state of his indisposition.

St. Paul's bell commenced tolling at twelve o'clock. It was preceded by the tolling of all the other church bells in London. The event has excited the strongest sensation throughout the metropolis.

A notice has been received at the House of Commons from the post office, that no franks will be permitted to go free, save those of the speaker. It is doubted whether this regulation will be strictly adhered to, as, by a late act the present parliament may continue embodied for six months after the demise of the king.

Mr. Noah's application for the purchase of Grand Island, in Niagara river, has been rejected by the legislature of New York.

On Saturday afternoon last, a deputy constable from Eastnamel township, arrived in this borough, with the corpse of a man, which, while on the way to interment, he had seized for debt, and brought to jail. The sheriff very properly refused to receive it. The constable was immediately arrested, and bound over for his appearance at court for the act. The corpse was removed and decently interred.

Our feelings would lead us to speak in terms of warmth of this foul transaction, which would have disgraced the darkest age of heathen barbarism; but as the subject will undergo a judicial investigation, we suppress them. [*Vill. Rec.*]

The convention held at Carlisle on the 4th inst. nominated JOSEPH HEISTER as a candidate for governor.

The convention held at Lewistown on the 7th inst. nominated WILLIAM FINDLAY as a candidate for governor.

*Deaths in Philadelphia*, from the 26th ult. to the 4th inst.—59. From the 4th to the 11th inst.—45.

*Deaths in Baltimore*, from the 28th ult. to the 6th inst.—22.

#### MARRIED.

On Thursday evening last, in Washington City, D. C. by the Rev. Mr. Hawley, Samuel Lawrence Gouverneur, esq. of New York, to Miss Maria Hester Monroe, youngest daughter of James Monroe, President of the United States.

On the same evening, by the same, Mr. John P. Fonde, of Philadelphia, to Miss Eliza Stewart, of that place.

#### DIED.

In the city of Trenton, N. J. on the 8th inst. Samuel Leake, esq. in the 73d year of his age, formerly one of the most distinguished advocates at the New Jersey bar.

On the 11th inst. Miss Eliza Macpherson, aged 22 years.

On the 7th inst. Mr. John Duffield, late of Frankford, in the 44th year of his age.

On the 10th inst. Mrs. Elizabeth Neill, in the 23d year of her age.

On the 9th inst. after a lingering illness, Miss Alice T. Slack.

On the 9th inst. Mrs. Alice Johnston, relict of the late colonel Francis Johnston.

## Miscellany.

### APPRENTICES' LIBRARY.

At a Meeting of the Board of Managers of the Apprentices' Library Company of Philadelphia, held March 9th, the following address was agreed upon and directed to be printed, and the Editors of the different newspapers in the City requested to publish it.

#### ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC.

The Board of Managers of the Apprentices' Library Company of Philadelphia, in thus soliciting the patronage of their fellow citizens, feel it incumbent on them to state the views with which the institution has been founded, and the objects to which it will chiefly be devoted. Though they cannot suppose that it will be viewed with indifference, yet they beg leave to call the attention of the public to some of its most prominent features.

The temptations to which the apprentices of our city are exposed, are not only in the highest degree alluring and dangerous, but adapted to every taste and capacity. The lad who has been busily occupied throughout the day, devotes his evenings to recreation, and in the absence of higher enjoyments, plunges into sensual excesses and acquires depraved tastes and vicious habits. Even where a young man discovers a fondness for reading, it is in great danger of being perverted. Books of the most licentious character and demoralizing tendency, are sold in cellars and obscure situations, at far less than their original cost, and fall generally into the hands of readers of this class. To counteract these low temptations, by inspiring a taste for reading, and to guide and purify that taste, are objects which our library will tend to accomplish. By loaning improving books to apprentices, it will induce them to pass their evenings at home; and by requiring security for the safe return of the books, which security it is hoped will be furnished by the masters, additional ties may be added to a connexion, which has, it is to be regretted, become too loose and mercenary. The direction which will thus be given to the pursuits of this class of society, will not merely be a safeguard against the dangers of youthful temptation, but will be felt through life, in the superior intelligence and sobriety, the elevation of thought and correctness of apprehension, which knowledge and the love of knowledge generally induce.

In another point of view the institution of the Apprentices' Library may be ex-



pected to exert a most beneficial influence. It is intended to contain, as far as the funds will admit of, a collection of whatever is valuable in relation to the arts and manufactures. We may differ in opinion, as to the measure of encouragement which is due to our domestic manufacture; but all must agree, that as our nation increases in wealth, they must naturally and spontaneously arise, and that every year of our political existence augments the number and extent of the establishments in one or another branch of industry. The advantages which Philadelphia possesses as a manufacturing site are unrivalled in our country, and it may reasonably be expected that manufactures will permanently increase in our city. To give to our artists, therefore, access to the best treatises on their respective trades; an opportunity of becoming acquainted, not only with the machinery and manipulations of other countries, but with the philosophical principles which govern the processes of their arts; and, by placing such information in the hands of apprentices, to give a spur to their ingenuity and industry, may rationally be expected to conduce to the perfection of our manufactures, and consequently to the prosperity of our city.

The Apprentices' Library is an institution, which not only recommends itself to the patronage of the citizens by its own merits, but which seems to be required of us by the measures we have already adopted, and which are now in a train of successful operation. The elementary schools recently established by law, impart to every child who requires them the first principles of knowledge. They teach him to read and to write, and make him acquainted with the properties of numbers. Here, from the nature of the case, they are obliged to stop. But is this all that is required of us? Shall we break up and prepare the soil, yet refuse to sow the seed, or leave it to perish through neglect? The learning which children acquire at these schools, is chiefly valuable as a preparation for further instruction; and, seeing that we have thus given the power of acquisition, it is of the utmost importance, that measures be taken to prevent those further acquirements from being of a vicious and depraved character. It is thus only, by placing within the reach of this class of young men, books adapted to their pursuits and situation in life, and selected with a discriminating hand, that the system of public education can be endued with that

moral force of which it is believed to be susceptible.

These, we trust, are powerful and sufficient arguments to recommend the Apprentices' Library to the patronage of the public. But there are other considerations which present themselves to our minds, and add to our prepossessions in favour of the institution. It is the maxim of our excellent constitution, that all power emanates from the people, and that governments are instituted for their happiness. The power which emanates from a corrupt people, can never be fruitful of blessings; nor can a healthy and vigorous tone of action be maintained in a community but by a free circulation of knowledge, accompanied by habits of industry and sobriety. The ties which bind us together as a nation, are of moral rather than physical obligation. Every means that invigorates the moral health and intellectual force of society, tends to strengthen the bonds of our union, and cement the fabric of our empire. To promote these all-important objects is therefore the incumbent duty of every good citizen. We may be thought by some to be labouring in an obscure and unproductive part of the vineyard; but we confidently look to our fellow citizens for such support, that the distant historian in recounting the causes of the prosperity of Philadelphia, of her attainments in the arts, of the virtue and intelligence of her citizens, the liberality of her institutions, and the reputation and eminence of her sons, shall say that among neither the last nor the least of them was her Apprentices' Library.

Impressed with these views, the Managers beg leave to state that donations in money will be received by the Treasurer, James Cresson, No. 227 Market Street, and donations of books and maps by Roberts Vaux, No. 346 Arch Street; Thomas F. Leaming, No. 199 South Front Street; John C. Browne, No. 325 North Front Street and Kensington; Kimber & Sharpless, No. 93 Market Street; William Fry, No. 63 South Fifth Street. Measures will be taken as soon as practicable for opening the library, of which event public notice shall be duly given.

Persons who are desirous of becoming members, are requested to leave their names and address with one of the Managers.

PHILIP GARRETT, *Chairman pro tem.*

March 9th 1820.



*Fruit.*—We are happy to find that a society is about forming in this city, for the purpose of improving the qualities of fruit in the state of Maryland. We have, in our anxiety to encourage commerce neglected the cultivation of the earth, and we are now smarting under the consequences of such encouragement and of such negligence. Commerce, unsteady as the gale that fans her pinions, has, like a capricious vixen as she is, deserted us. Whereas, agriculture, that permanent blessing, not dependent on the winds, but on the steady march of the sun through the firmament, needs only to be wooed to be won. Since the desertion of commerce, we are now employed in soliciting the advances of a sure and steady friend.

[*Balt. Morn. Chron.*]

### THE PHILOSOPHER'S SCALES.

BY JANE TAYLOR.

In days of yore, as Gothic fable tells,  
When learning dimly gleamed from grated cells,  
When wild Astrology's distorted eye  
Shunn'd the fair field of true Philosophy,  
And wandering through the depths of mental  
night,  
Sought dark predictions mid the worlds of light:  
When curious Alchymy, with puzzled brow,  
Attempted things which science laughs at now,  
Losing the useful purpose she consults  
In vain chimeras and unknown results:—  
In those gray times there liv'd a reverend sage,  
Whose wisdom shed its light on that dark age;  
A monk he was, immured in cloistered walls,  
Where now the ivy'd ruin crumbling falls:  
'Twas a profound seclusion that he chose,  
The noisy world disturbed not that repose:  
The flow of murmuring waters, day by day,  
And whistling winds, that forc'd their tardy way  
Thro' reverend trees, of ages' growth, that  
made  
Around the pile a deep monastic shade;  
The chaunted psalm, or solitary prayer—  
Such were the sounds that broke the silence  
there.  
'Twas here, when his rites sacerdotal were o'er,  
In the depth of his cell with its stone-covered  
floor,  
Resigning to thought his chimerical brain,  
He formed the contrivance we now shall ex-  
plain:  
But whether by magic's or alchymy's powers,  
We know not—indeed 'tis no business of ours:  
Perhaps it was only by patience and care,  
At last that he brought his invention to bear;  
In youth 'twas projected, but years stole away,  
And ere 'twas complete he was wrinkled and  
gray;  
But success is secure, unless energy fails—  
And at length he produced the *Philosopher's*  
*Scales*.  
What were they? you ask; you shall presently  
see,  
These scales were not made to weigh sugar and  
tea;

O no;—for such properties wondrous had they,  
That qualities, feelings, and thoughts they  
could weigh;

Together with articles small or immense,  
From mountains or planets, to atoms of sense;  
Nought was there so bulky, but there it could  
lay,

And nought so ethereal but there it would stay;  
And nought so reluctant, but in it must go:—  
All which some examples more clearly will  
show.

The first thing he weighed was the head of  
*Voltaire*,

Which retained all the wit that had ever been  
there;

As a weight, he threw in a torn scrap of a leaf,  
Containing the prayer of the penitent thief;

When the skull rose aloft with so sudden a  
spell,

That it bounced like a ball on the roof of the  
cell.

One time he put in *Alexander the Great*,  
With a garment that *Dorcas* had made, for a  
weight,

And tho' clad in armour from sandals to crown,  
The *hero* rose up, and the *garment* went down.

A long row of alms-houses, amply endowed  
By a well esteemed Pharisee, busy and proud,  
Next loaded one scale; while the other was  
prest

By those *mites* the poor widow dropp'd into the  
chest;

Up flew the endowment, not weighing an ounce,  
And down, down the farthing's-worth came with  
a bounce.

Again he performed an experiment rare;  
A monk, with austerities, bleeding and bare,  
Climbed into his scale,—in the other was laid  
The heart of our *Howard*, now partly decayed;  
When he found with surprise, that the whole of  
his brother

Weigh'd less by some pounds, than this bit of  
the other.

By further experiments, (no matter how),  
He found that *ten chariots* weigh'd less than *one*  
*plough*:

A sword, with gilt trappings, rose up in the  
scale,

Though balanced by only a ten-penny nail;  
A shield and a helmet, a buckler and spear,  
Weigh'd less than a widow's unchrySTALLIZED  
tear;

A lord and a lady went up at full sail, —  
When a bee chanced to light on the opposite  
scale;

Ten doctors, ten lawyers, two courtiers, one  
earl,

Ten counsellor's wigs, full of powder and curl,  
All heaped in one balance, and swinging from  
thence,

Weigh'd less than a few grains of *candour* and  
*sense*.

A first-water diamond, with brilliants begirt,  
Than one good *potato* just washed from the  
dirt;

Yet not mountains of silver and gold would suf-  
fice

One pearl to out-weigh—'twas the *pearl of great*  
*price*!

Last of all, the whole world was bowled in at  
the grate,

With the *soul* of a beggar to serve for a weight,



When the former sprang up with so strong a rebuff,  
That it made a vast rent, and escaped at the roof;  
When balanc'd in air, it ascended on high,  
And sailed up aloft, a balloon in the sky;  
While the scale with the *soul* in, so mightily fell,  
That it jerked the philosopher out of his cell.

MORAL.

Dear reader, if e'er self-deception prevails,  
We pray you to try *The Philosopher's Scales* :  
But if they are lost in the ruins around,  
Perhaps a good substitute thus may be found :  
Let *judgment* and *conscience* in circles be cut,  
To which strings of *thought* may be carefully put;  
Let these be made even with caution extreme,  
And *impartiality* serve for a beam.  
Then bring those good actions which pride over-rates,  
And tear up your *motives* in bits for the weights.  
[*Bermuda Gaz.*]

CONSTANTINOPLE.

*Extract of a Letter from an American gentleman to his friend in Boston, dated Messina, Nov. 10th, 1819.*

My dear sir—I arrived here some days since, after having visited Odessa, Constantinople, Smyrna and the Ionian Isles, and have been much gratified with my voyage. I have every where been treated with attention and politeness, and have been flattered as an American to find how high our nation stands in the opinion of the countries I have visited.

The plague raged with violence during my stay at Constantinople; from 4 to 500 persons died of it daily, whilst I remained in the city, and one in the house I lodged in. The danger was great, but it did not prevent me from satisfying in a great measure my curiosity. I passed daily in my walks many, whom the frightful disorder was despatching for the other world, but as I kept a good look out, I was fortunate enough not to run aboard any of them; avoid contact and there is no danger of taking the plague. I constantly slept on the floor, on my own bed and kept the key of my chamber in my pocket, and suffered no one to meddle with the clothes—dined without table-cloth or napkin, and both before and after undressing, washed my hands in vinegar, a small bottle of which I constantly carried in my pocket; and whenever I touched a Turk, (which cannot always be avoided in such crowded and narrow streets) I took the same precaution, and I am convinced, that with great care the plague may be avoided.

The approach to Constantinople, by sea, is magnificently picturesque, and presents

one of the most superb views I have ever seen, especially at the season when I was there; the shores of Bosphorus were covered with the most luxuriant verdure, and the strait with vessels of every nation and every description, and ten thousand boats passing in all directions filled with such a variety of costumes, that the whole, for a moment, resembled enchantment; but the spell was soon broken, for the city presents a picture the very reverse, and which the scenes I had just left served perhaps to heighten. The interior of Constantinople presents a thousand disgusting objects, and is, without exception, the most dirty, ill built and incommodious city I ever visited. Most of the streets are worse than the dirtiest alleys I have ever seen in other cities of Europe; many of them were not more than eight, and none more than fourteen feet wide, crowded with a thousand discordant and disagreeable objects, and lined with ten thousand dogs, the most filthy of their race, sleeping undisturbed in them, and over whom you are obliged to jump at every instant, for it would be dangerous to disturb them. They are pupped in the streets, and live and die there; they are never suffered to enter a dwelling, in any season, and depend on the charity of the Turks for subsistence; they feed them daily, and the numerous fountains supply them with water. It is calculated that there are from 90,000 to 100,000 of these animals living in the streets. As the city is not lighted, the canine race have complete possession, during the night, and suffer no one to pass without a lantern, and even with one you are not safe at a late hour. They really keep an excellent police. I was assured by a physician who had resided in the city for 15 years, and by several other persons that they were never attacked with the hydrophobia; if this is a fact, and I have reason to believe it, it would be curious to know the cause.

[*Bost. Ev. Gaz.*]

KOSCIUSKO.

The late report of the American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour, states a fact highly honourable to this eminent but unfortunate patriot and hero, and which, we presume, is not generally known to the people of this country:—it is, that "General Kosciusko bequeathed a fund, exceeding twenty thousand dollars, in trust to Mr. Jefferson, (late president of the United States) to be laid out in the



purchase of young female slaves, who are to be educated and emancipated."

It is added, in the report, that "General John H. Cocke, of Virginia, has, at the request of Mr. Jefferson, undertaken the administration of this trust, in the hope, in which Mr. J. concurs, that the difficulties opposed to the wishes of the testator, under the existing laws of Virginia, may be obviated, in accordance with the terms of his will, by incorporating the bequest with the funds of the American society, under the sanction and control of a court of equity." [Trenton Amer.

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FROM THE RICHMOND ENQUIRER.

*Method of putting out Fires with Potash.*

Sir—In your paper of the 24th of February I observe a communication signed M. C. proposing a method of stopping the progress of fires in towns, by covering the roofs of adjacent houses with wet blankets.

I approve the method recommended by M. C. and will take the liberty of suggesting a very simple method of increasing its effects, and, as I believe, insuring its success, by the simple addition of a quantity of potash to the water with which the blankets are proposed to be saturated, by that correspondent: seven or eight pounds of potash, or pearlashes in *powder*, thrown into the water in the fire engine, and stirred about in the water, from time to time, while the engine is at work, has an instantaneous effect in extinguishing the fire, wherever the water lights upon it; and *will not burn afresh* in the part extinguished.

It may be remembered, that about twenty years ago, there was a fire in Richmond, in which all the houses immediately above the Bell Tavern, for the space of a hundred yards, or more, were destroyed. Happening to be in Richmond at the time, I walked down to the spot where the fire was seen raging, just above the Bell Tavern; where, meeting with Dr. Wardlaw, lately deceased, who had not long before removed to that neighbourhood, and whose house was in great danger, I mentioned to him the salutary effect, which I had heard might be produced by mixing potash, or pearlashes, with the water in the fire engine. Luckily he had a quantity of it in his shop; a keg full was brought out, thrown into the engine, stirred about, and thrown upon the roof of a house just above the Bell Tavern which was in flames, from one end to the other. It succeeded immediately in extinguishing the flames at the end of the

house, next the Bell Tavern, and stopped the progress of the fire on that side the street. It was applied with equal success on the other side, and Dr. Wardlaw's house and shop were saved, and the fire stopped on that side of the street, where Mayo's buildings have been since erected.

Of the truth and efficacy of the above experiment you may be perfectly assured. Doctor Wardlaw was the only gentleman present, to whom I recollect to have mentioned the experiment; and probably there is not another person alive who remembers its application and success but myself. Those who are disposed to doubt the success as above stated, may consult Dobson's Encyclopedia, vol. 7, p. 247, on the title FIRE. I am sir, yours,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Williamsburgh, Feb. 26, 1820.

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AGRICULTURE.

The following communication was made to the South Carolina Agricultural Society, at their meeting at Statesburgh, in October last.

*On the Culture of Potatoes.*

I have, during the week, ascertained the result of an experiment on *Sweet Potatoes*, which I beg leave to communicate to the society.

It need not be stated, for the information of the members, that the potato is propagated by laying the vines on banks of earth, and covering them with earth at intervals; or that another mode of propagating them (though I believe less frequently practised) is to place the slips, or seed potatoes, very close together, on a flat bed, and cover them lightly with rich mould. From these, sprouts soon shoot up, and when from four to six inches above ground, they are pulled off, and set out about ten inches apart, on beds prepared for the purpose. With a view to ascertain the relative product of these two modes of propagating this valuable root, two adjoining beds were planted in the two modes abovementioned, on the first day of July last. Fifteen yards of each bed have just been measured and compared. The potatoes from the sprouts weighed 33 lbs.; those from the vines, 16½ lbs. About three-fourths of those from the sprouts appeared to be good eating potatoes, while not more than a tenth from the vines appeared large enough for eating.

It must be noticed, however, that the sprouts afforded a seed, and that vines are better for that purpose; but as the potato from the sprout is said to keep better than the root potato, and does not, I think, require more than half the labour, no inconsiderable advantage may be derived from always cultivating some in this mode. Another incidental advantage, is, that as the sprouts can be procured for setting out whenever the season is favourable, a crop is almost always insured; and it is probably within the experience of every planter, that the crop from vines has failed, from the vines not being fit to



put out when the season was favourable, or the season unsuitable when the vines were at command.

To make still more striking the difference of product from the two modes of cultivation, I selected from an acre and a quarter of ground the three best potatoes produced by planting the vines, and from a quarter of an acre of ground planted in sprouts, two of the best yam potatoes, and one of the best Spanish, (though not as large as many of the yams) and submit them to the examination of the society. The three produced from the sprouts weighed 13 lbs.; the three from the vines, 3½ lbs. FS. K. HUGER.  
Charleston, 27th Oct. 1819.

#### CHANGE OF PRICES.

At a time when farmers complain so much of low prices for the produce of their farms, it may be well to bring to their recollection what the situation of things was previously to the commencement of the wars of the French revolution; at which time, every article of our produce began to advance in price.

The writer of these observations was a boarder in a family in the year 1789-90, when he purchased the winter's wood for 13s 6d per cord (\$1 80 to \$1 87).

Wheat, at this time, was at from 7s 3d to 7s 6d per bushel, and I have heard a friend of mine say, that about that time, he purchased 300 bushels of Indian corn at 25 cents per bushel, and after keeping it for three months, sold it for 2s per bushel. At this time, there was very little corn raised in Pennsylvania; it was customary for farmers from Chester county, to come to Wilmington in the spring and buy wagon loads of corn to feed their beasts until the pasture was prepared, or to fatten the few cattle they then fed.

The writer recollects very well purchasing butter in market, about that time, at six pence per lb. Farmers then thought it a hardship to give two lbs. of butter for one of sugar; and since that day, they have seen the time when they could procure three pounds of sugar for one of butter; and even now, when they complain of low prices, they sell one pound of butter for so much as will purchase two pounds of sugar; eggs were at that time about half the present price, and other articles in proportion; at the same time, it is presumed, that foreign goods generally, were fully as dear as they are at present.

It may be well to bring these matters to the recollection of young farmers, who have grown up and come into active life since the period spoken of, to reconcile them, not only to the present state of things, but to the idea of one more nearly approaching to what has been mentioned.

The period spoken of, was one of general peace; since when, great improvements have been made in agriculture, as well as other arts, both in Europe and America, particularly in the latter; and there are substantial reasons to believe, that the products of the earth in the United States, are ten fold what they were thirty years ago. As there can be no doubt that agricultural science has been widely extended in

Europe since that day, it is an interesting consideration, what disposition can be made of our provisions, if general peace is preserved for ten years.

The writer can recollect when flour was as dull an article at 4½ dollars per barrel, as it ever has been since. [Del. Watch.

#### A BOLD SEAMAN.

London, Jan. 18.

The following article might seem to have been borrowed from one of the romances of the last century, if the facts were not so recent and still to be witnessed:

"Ostend, Jan. 10.—For some time past we have seen in our port the most intrepid mariner perhaps that ever existed. He is an Englishman, who in a small and frail boat about sixteen feet in length, and four in breadth, undertakes alone the voyage from England to Ostend, where he takes on board a cargo of productions of the country, which he conveys to England in his boat. What is most astonishing is, that neither the high sea, nor the cold, nor the inclemency of the weather, stops the hardy mariner. Let us imagine a man entirely alone in the open sea, guiding a little boat, which hardly rises six inches above the surface of the ocean, exposed to the rain, to the winds, and above all, to the intense cold which we now have, and we may judge how far the love of gain will go. In his last voyage hither he was three days in the passage, and did not stop the whole time. He has contrived an ingenious method to steer his frail vessel: placed in the front of the boat, with his back turned to the prow, he guides the helm by means of two ropes, which go the whole length of the boat, and thence manages his sails without quitting his place. As the ice might accumulate against the sides of his boat, and thus expose him to sink, he has taken care, before putting out to sea, to grease all the sides of his boat, that the water may not adhere to it; and in this manner he traverses the ocean, without troubling himself about the numerous dangers which he incurs, and which he has hitherto braved with impunity."

#### GOVERNOR CLINTON.

We have sought with some interest to find out, amidst the clamour of an uncommonly spirited opposition, what were the objections to Mr. Clinton. From an attentive perusal of the ablest papers which oppose him, we are able to deduce these our



reasons why he is undeserving the confidence of the people.

1. That he was not orthodox in his republicanism during the late war.

We would observe on this charge, that the people elected him governor almost unanimously with a full knowledge of the facts; and the objection seems therefore unreasonable.

2. That he is a candidate for the Presidency.

We find no evidence of the fact except in the charge of his adversaries; which we deem on good grounds to be incorrect. Opposition to Mr. Monroe is not, we are persuaded, contemplated from any quarter; and the friends of Mr. Clinton will be found among his supporters.

3. That Mr. Clinton is a man of "unchastened ambition."

This charge is, to be sure, sufficiently indefinite. If it mean that Mr. Clinton is ambitious of public approbation, and that he endeavours to obtain it by exerting his talents to promote the best interests of the state, then we confess there would seem to us, at this distance, some reason for the charge.

4. That he is the "*Magnus Apollo*."

So often has this offence been publicly stated to be true, that we are rather inclined to think there must be some ground for it.

One thing is clear, Mr. Clinton will be written down, if a spirited and able pen can do it. But we cannot help thinking it a pity, that such talents could not find a different, may we be pardoned for saying, a nobler purpose, for their display.

[*Village Record*.]

#### VESUVIUS.

The following interesting account of a late eruption of Mount Vesuvius is extracted from a German paper:

*Naples, Dec. 7.*

Although Vesuvius for the last thirteen months has never ceased to pour forth streams of lava, its activity is now rather increased. The eruption of the 25th of November was much greater than for the last two years. It commenced during a terrible storm, amid showers of rain, snow and hail, accompanied by a hurricane blowing from the south, and violent peals of thunder. On the previous day, strong explosions, which excited dismay in the neighbourhood, were heard in the crater. About four o'clock in the morning they were strongest, and a smart shock of an earthquake, which was felt as far as Naples, accompanied them. At the same time there rose from the mouth of the crater an immense pillar of fire, and a powerful stream of boiling lava rolled down the dark

sides of the mountain with such velocity, that it traversed a space of more than a mile in less than an hour; and being divided into two streams, arrived before noon at the foot of the mountain. There it threatened with destruction Torre del Grece, and Torre del P'Annunziata. In the latter place are singularly situated the manufactory of gunpowder, and the only foundry which the kingdom contains. Fortunately, the currents of lava grew cold as they descended; they lost themselves in the ravines, and did not touch the vineyards of the two neighbouring communes.

M. De Gimbernati, counsellor of the legation of Bavaria, has attended to these different eruptions, which he saw commence on the 20th of Oct. 1818. He has observed that the torrent of lava issued from a new fissure, which extended itself from the edge of the crater to a depth of more than a hundred feet, in a vertical line. The breadth of the torrent of fire which rushed forth by this breach exceeded twenty-five feet, but it became a great deal larger on the declivity of the mountain, where it divided itself into two branches; the principal fell down a perpendicular precipice, forming a cascade of flame 25 feet high by 20 broad. After this fall, the lava accumulated in the abyss below, upon the lava which had been deposited there in past ages; a part of it passed away by another precipice, and formed a second cascade, less steep, but more wide than the former. It was then lost in the gulf beneath for above a quarter of an hour, but only to burst forth again for the third time, and to form a cascade of more than 60 feet in height, and 30 in breadth. The torrent then descended in a direct line like a river on an inclined plane of about a quarter of a league, and meeting a Vesuvian pyramid was again divided; these subdivisions multiplied to a great number, and at length were absorbed in the defiles at the foot of the mountain. Since this eruption, the velocity and quantity of the lava have diminished, but up to the 7th of Dec. it continued to run through the issue of the crater; the agitation in the interior seems to continue the same, if one may judge by an unceasing noise there like thunder.

A few days before the last eruption, M. De Gimbernati carried a barometer to the top of Vesuvius, when he discovered that its height was lessened by more than sixty-feet since January, 1819, in consequence of the frequent fallings of the crater. It appeared to have become still lower since that period, as the brow of the mountain upon which the barometer was then placed, sunk two days after into the interior.

It is very remarkable that, notwithstanding the agitation of Vesuvius, the well which M. De Gimbernati discovered a year ago near the concave of the old crater, still continues to supply pure and drinkable water, while a second well which he has discovered since, within 20 yards of the first, furnishes water strongly impregnated with caloric acid, the quantity of which varies from one day to another, in proportion to the activity of the volcano.

*Boston.*—One copy of the new novel of *Ivanhoe*, was advertised to be sold by auc-



tion yesterday noon. The retail price is one dollar per volume, but in consequence of the detention of the copies destined for Boston, at some of the outports, very few have yet been received, and the work yesterday after much competition by bidders, brought two dollars seventy-five cents per volume.

Mr. Fearman, a London bookseller, having announced "Pontefract Castle," by the author of *Tales of My Landlord*, Mr. Ballantyne, bookseller in Scotland to his royal highness, has declared in the public papers that it is either a hoax or an infringement on the property of Messrs. Constable & Co., as he has the best means of being assured, that the author of *Tales of My Landlord* will never send any further work to the public under that title. He also states, that Messrs. Constable & Co. are taking the necessary legal measures. Mr. Fearman then comes out with a manifesto, urging that the name of Jedediah Cleishbotham is notoriously a fictitious name, and belongs to no one, and that to say that any one has property in that name, is a fraudulent assertion. He therefore defies legal prosecution.

### From Foreign Magazines.

*Skull of King Robert the Bruce.*—A few days ago, in the church of Dunfermline, the grave of the celebrated warrior king Robert the Bruce was opened, in presence of a numerous assemblage of men of rank and science. The skull, and various parts of the skeleton, were in a state of preservation. Now that the opinions of Gall and Spurheim are not passed over as mere pieces of quackery, the curiosity of anatomists, and even of the public in general, was excited by this invaluable opportunity of inspecting and examining such a skull as that of Robert the Bruce. We are told, that several of the propensities of this great man, were strongly expressed in the eminences of the skull—in particular, that the organ of *combativeness* was the most prominent of the whole.

[*Blackwood's Edinb. Mag.*]

*Colouring of Agate.*—Dr. Macculloch of Woolwich, in an interesting communication to the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, informs us that the beautiful black and white zoned agates, sold by lapidaries, are

prepared by first boiling the specimens in oil, and afterwards in sulphuric acid. The oil is absorbed by certain laminae, and these become black when the stone is exposed to the action of the sulphuric acid.

[*Ibid.*]

*Subterranean Sounds in Granite Rocks.*—M. Humboldt was informed by most credible witnesses, that subterranean sounds, like those of an organ, are heard towards sunrise by those who sleep upon the granite rocks on the banks of the Orinoko. He supposes them to arise from the difference of temperature between the external air, and that in the narrow and deep crevices of the shelves of rocks. During the day these crevices are heated to 48° or 50°. The temperature of their surface was often 39°, when that of the air was only 28°. Now as this difference of temperature will be at a maximum about sunrise, the current of air issuing from the crevices will produce sounds which may be modified by its impulse against the elastic films of mica, that may project into the crevices. Messrs. Jomard, Jollois and Devilliers, heard, at sunrise, in a monument of granite, placed at the centre of the spot on which the palace of Karnack stands, a noise resembling that of a string breaking.—Humboldt's *Personal Narrative*, vol iv.

[*Ibid.*]

*The increase of Temperature in Coal Mines* is a fact familiar to every person who has had occasion to frequent them. The instant a dip-pit is connected with a rise-pit by a mine, a strong circulation of air, like wind, commences. If the air at the surface is at the freezing point, it descends the dip or deepest pit, freezes all the water upon the sides of the pit, and even forms icicles upon the roof of the coal within the mine; but, the same air, in its passage through the mines to the rise-pit, which is generally of less depth, has its temperature greatly increased, and issues from the pit mouth in the form of a dense misty cloud, formed by the condensation of the natural vapour of the mine in the freezing atmosphere.

[*Ibid.*]

*Population of Moscow.*—When the French quitted Moscow, there were only 16,000 inhabitants; but in the winter of 1817-18, the population amounted to 312,000, including 21,000 military. [*Ibid.*]



## Poetry.

FROM BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.

*The Negro's Lament for Mungo Park.*

Where the wild Joliba  
Rolls his deep waters,  
Sate at their evening toil  
Afric's dark daughters,  
Where the thick mangroves  
Broad shadows were flinging,  
Each o'er her lone loom  
Bent mournfully singing—  
Alas, for the white man! o'er deserts a ranger,  
No more shall we welcome the white-bosom'd  
stranger.

"Through the deep forest  
Fierce lions are prowling;  
Mid the thickets entangling  
Hyænas are howling;  
There should he wander,  
Where danger lurks ever,  
To his home, where the sun sets,  
Return shall he never.  
Alas, for the white man! o'er deserts a ranger,  
No more shall we welcome the white-bosom'd  
stranger.

"The hands of the Moor  
In his wrath do they bind him?  
Oh! seal'd is his doom  
If the savage Moor find him.  
More fierce than hyænas,  
Through darkness advancing,  
Is the curse of the Moor,  
And his eyes fiery glancing!  
Alas, for the white man! o'er deserts a ranger,  
No more shall we welcome the white-bosom'd  
stranger.

"A voice from the desert!  
My wilds do not hold him:  
Pale thirst doth not rack,  
Nor the sand storm infold him.  
The death gale passed by,  
And his breath fail'd to smother,  
Yet ne'er shall he wake  
To the voice of his mother!  
Alas, for the white man! o'er deserts a ranger,  
No more shall we welcome the white-bosom'd  
stranger.

"O loved of the Lotus,  
Thy waters adorning,  
Pour, Joliba, pour  
Thy full streams to the morning!  
The Halcyon may fly  
— To thy wave as her pillow,  
But wo to the white man,  
Who trusts in thy billow!  
Alas, for the white man! o'er deserts a ranger,  
No more shall we welcome the white-bosom'd  
stranger.

"He launch'd his light bark,  
Our fond warnings despising,  
And sail'd to the land  
Where the day beams are rising.  
His wife from her bower  
May look forth in her sorrow,  
But he shall ne'er come  
To her hope of to-morrow!

Alas, for the white man! o'er deserts a ranger,  
No more shall we welcome the white-bosom'd  
stranger."

## AULD LANG SYNE.

When years are young,  
And health is strong,  
And all things round us smile,  
Oh let us cherish those we love,  
And life's care beguile;  
For time runs on,  
And soon is gone,  
And we may grieve and pine,  
For angry mind  
Or word unkind,  
In auld lang syne.

## CHORUS.

For every day  
That fleets away,  
Tho' passing fair or fine,  
Shall reckoned be  
As one degree,  
Of auld lang syne.

When friends grow cool,  
Or play the fool,  
And show an altered mind,  
Oh then's the prime  
Of friendship's time  
To prove still kind;  
So shall our days  
Roll on in ease,  
And rough and smooth combine,  
Still to endear  
Each passing year,  
Of auld lang syne.

[Gent. Mag.]

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